



# Lunenburg Public Schools

**Loxi Jo Calmes**  
*Superintendent of Schools*

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
Wednesday, December 4, 2013  
Town Hall - 7:00 p.m.

## Minutes

### School Committee

Gregory Berthiaume  
Michael Mackin  
Colleen Shapiro - absent  
Brendan Grady  
Todd Blake

### Superintendent

Loxi Jo Calmes

### Recording Secretary

Mary Landi

### Student Representative

### Guests

Jill Blaisdell, Steve Malandrinos  
Tim Santry, Brian Spadafino

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- \* Call to Order – Dr. Berthiaume called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
  - \* Chair's Report – Dr. Berthiaume thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.
  - \* Review and Approve Minutes – None.
  - \* Review and Approve Warrants – Warrants were on the table for signatures and there was one line item transfer.
  - \* Superintendent's Report
    - Update on work with Anti-Defamation League, Department of Justice, and Fitchburg State University – Superintendent Calmes read a prepared statement outlining where we are with the current situation and the work we are doing with several organizations. Mr. Brian Spadafino also read a prepared statement. Mr. McCauliff spoke and thanked the superintendent, Mr. Spadafino and the committee for their support over the past few weeks. He stated that student behavior has been outstanding. The biggest challenge is how we move forward and make something positive out of the situation. Mr. McCauliff expressed his appreciation to Superintendent Calmes for her support.
  - \* Student Representative's Report – None.
  - \* School Building Committee Update – Mr. Mackin reminded everyone of the two public forums scheduled for tomorrow – one at 3:00 p.m. and one at 7:00 p.m. The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved the warrant for the school project, as well as setting a term of 30 years for the potential bonding. January 7 is the date of the Town Meeting and January 11 is the ballot vote.
  - \* New Business
    - a. FY15 Proposed Budgets
      - Technology – Mr. Stephen Malandrinos addressed the committee to present his proposed FY15 budget. He began with a brief overview of the IT department, who they are, and what they do. Mr. Malandrinos reviewed the accomplishments from the past year. He then reviewed the proposed budget and noted the decrease in computer supplies due to some items being put in the capital plan budget.
      - Primary School – Ms. Elaine Blaisdell addressed the committee to present the FY15 proposed budget for the primary school. The request is an increase of 75.87 percent. The lines she highlighted were

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workbooks, math supplies, AV supplies, and general school supplies. Ms. Blaisdell answered some questions from committee members. There was a brief discussion around library books.

- Turkey Hill Middle School – Mr. Timothy Santry addressed the committee to present the FY15 proposed budget for the middle school. The request is an increase of 55.24%. The lines he highlighted were library books, special education materials, general supplies, art supplies, periodicals, and textbooks. Dr. Berthiaume thanked Mr. Santry and his staff, as well as the other school administrators and faculties, for all their work.
- Lunenburg High School – Mr. Brian Spadafino addressed the committee to present the FY15 proposed budget for the high school. The request is an increase of 22.56%. Mr. Spadafino highlighted the following line with the highest increases: high school art supplies, marching band, band travel costs, marching band competitions and festivals, high school music equipment, music. He also noted that he will be recommending hiring a social worker or school adjustment counselor for students transitioning back from hospitalizations.
- Mr. Santry spoke about personnel needs. They are currently short one tutor position. He will be requesting a technology teacher and tutor for next year.
- Ms. Blaisdell will request one or two additional tutors to provide in-classroom support for students. Currently they are using long-term subs in a couple of cases.
- Superintendent Calmes asked the committee if they had any input on the five-year plan. Dr. Berthiaume said he would not pre-empt the town manager's recommendation.

\* Old Business

a. Appoint members to Advisory Committee for Tolerance and Diversity

Dr. Berthiaume asked if the committee should meet next week to appoint advisory committee members. If not, then the appointments will be made the following week. There was some discussion around the policy and procedures with regard to bullying. Do we need to re-look at this? Dr. Berthiaume suggested the advisory committee come back with recommendations on personnel changes, programs, and recommendations for policy changes that are necessary to ensure we have created an environment that is supportive of diversity. Superintendent Calmes stated the importance of allowing the school community to participate in this process. We would ask the advisory committee for a ballpark budget figure in March for any changes they recommend. The Advisory committee's charge should be complete by end of school year.

\* Public Comment – None.

\* Reports

- a. Finance Committee
- b. School Councils – Turkey Hill Middle School won the Miles for Myles competition. The \$1,000 prize will be made available for a science assembly.
- c. PTO
- d. Policy Sub-Committee
- e. Capital Planning Committee
- f. Wellness Advisory Committee
- g. PAC/SAL
- h. Building Re-use Committee – Mr. Blake reported the building re-use committee gave its recommendation to the Board of Selectmen last night. The recommendation is to market the Ritter Building, Brooks House, and T.C. Passios. The proceeds of the sales would help fund a renovation/addition to the existing Town Hall to accommodate all departments at Town Hall. Dave Matthews addressed the committee and asked about meeting space. Can the new high school be used if the Town Hall meeting space gets renovated to office space?
- i. Other

\* Items for Future Discussion – Discuss and vote on a conditional vote that if the new school is built, we will turn over TCP over to the Town. Also, we need to discuss Brooks House and have a discussion of reopening TCP if the new school does not go through.

\* Executive Session - M.G.L. Chapter 39, Section 23B [3] To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government's bargaining or litigating position. None.

\* Adjournment – At 8:14 p.m. Mr. Mackin moved and Mr. Blake seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting.  
Vote: unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Landi  
Recording Secretary

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